

"THE MIKADO" SONG BY MISS SPENCE'S ALUMNAE

First Benefit Performance at the Plaza a Mighty Pleasing Show.

NEW VERSES FOR ONE SONG

Mrs. Julia Freeman Fairchild Tacks a Modern Impromptu to "I've Got a Little List."

Somewhere or other every time a professional chorus on Broadway toddles into view in the first act of the "Mikado" and chirps:

Schoolgirls we, eighteen and under,
From scholastic trammels free,
And we wonder—how we wonder—
What on earth this world can be!

—somewhere or other you begin to wonder whether they're singing the truth. But for once it was at the Plaza yesterday afternoon and the performers, all members of Miss Spence's School Society who sang the "Mikado" to aid an outdoor class for tuberculous children into view toddled a chorus that left no doubt in your mind that they were singing true talk in all four lines.

Blue black were the johnphilipsones glued to the tapering chin of the haughty Lord High Everything Else (Miss Marjorie Laycraft), and floor looking was the snickernee of the Lord High Executioner (Mrs. B. Tappen Fairchild). Miss Grace Henry unpacked crates of makeup to make her Kaido as terrifying as Mr. Roper's Cap'n Hook himself and stopped only at the point where she had put on a dab more of grease paint you wouldn't have been able to see her at all. And mingling with these were scores of Japanese "men" and maidens who (fortunately) lacked the strut and assurance of the professional chorus loid and lent to the performance instead a certain timid, naïveté and grace and clear girlish voices that gave the production a charm of its own.

When the press gallery, between acts, was remarking out in the Plaza corridors the remarkably good diction of the entire cast of young women standing within earshot burst in enthusiastically:

"Why shouldn't they have excellent diction? Did you ever hear Miss Spence read? Well, when Miss Spence reads you forget all about the ideas in the book she's reading to you and just listen to the words she's pronouncing. Honest and truly, Mr. Reporter, I've heard her read a poem of story aloud and after it was all over I didn't know what it was about just because I'd put in all my time listening to the sound alone. And so her girls must learn diction too."

Also it must be recorded here—with with proper restraint—that Miss Jeanette McAlpin is the best looking Yum-Yum the footlights have flashed upon since Sissy Day. Mrs. Himmans S. Bird as Nanki Poo, the lovelorn, scorned the skirts of Barnard and Vassar theatricals, and in her blouse and blue satin knickers and boy's wig reminded one very much of Miss Gertrude Bryan, a comparison which doubtless neither the amateur nor the professional will object to. And the half-wild wig and general makeup of Miss Catherine Burton as the Mikado got lots of applause, a makeup so good that one was rather startled to hear a feminine voice come from some place back of the Mikado's Stygian whiskers.

Mrs. Fairchild not only rolled her r's as *Ro Ro* in a way that rivaled Joe Sawyer at his best, but she also sang a verse to her "I've Got a Little List" number that was almost impromptu.

At least Mrs. Fairchild built up her encore r's just as a *Reise* in the first act. The rain rose yesterday afternoon. After interpolating some lines about:

That modern anomaly, the woman suffragist.

She never would be missed—

You know she'd not be missed.

a sentiment, by the way, which seemed to meet with approval among yesterday's audience, Mrs. Fairchild went on to remark that:

The Rose-fetian nuisance, which now is rather rare.

The Judge-al recallist—I've got him on the list.

All comic men, ex-presidents and clowns in private.

They never would be missed—they never would be missed.

And apologetic statements of a compromising mind.

Such as Woodrow Wilson, La Follette and likewise dear old Bryan—

The Steel Trust and Tobacco and also Standard Oil—

The task of filling up the tanks I really could not fail—

But you know it doesn't matter whom you put upon the list.

They never would be missed—no, none of them'd be missed.

Miss Carol A. Harriman as *Pish Tush* quite lived up to the sub-title of *A Noble Lord* and the chorus howled that it had paid a whole lot of attention to the stage director, M. Edgar Hart, when "I've Got a Little List" ladies in the first act the leading little chorus lady flung cherry blossoms about till the stage looked like a veritable pink snowstorm.

Miss Spence's girls produced the opera again last night and will sing it again tonight. Here are the principals and chorus:

The Mikado of Japan.....Catherine S. Burton

Lord Pish Tush.....Julia Freeman Fairchild

Lord Pish Tush.....Marjorie Laycraft

Lord Pish Tush.....Carol A. Harriman

Lord Pish Tush.....Jeanette McAlpin

Lord Pish Tush.....Vouletti Proctor

Lord Pish Tush.....Nathalie Jeroild Kelley

Lord Pish Tush.....Grace R. Henry

Lord Pish Tush.....Charles H. Allen

Lord Pish Tush.....Alma Frances Adams

Lord Pish Tush.....Dorothy Cramp

Lord Pish Tush.....Dorothy Fitch

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Henry A. Alker, Dr. and Mrs. Allen Fitch, Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony P. Rall and Mr. and Mrs. John T. Terry, Jr.

Among the girls who acted as ushers were the Misses Doris Porter, Ruth Moller, Eleanor Prentice, Marjorie Cleveland, Mildred Dodge, Lillian Endicott, Emma L. Romeny, Mildred Murphy, Julia Dick, Dorothy Darlington and Dorothy Shepherd.

A supper in the main restaurant followed the performance of last night, which will be repeated to-night with the same cast.

"FAUST" AT THE OPERA.

A Very Large Audience Applauds Performance of Gounod's Masterpiece.

Not any expert can tell what the general public will do about an opera performance, and probably Mr. Gatti-Casazza was as much astounded as he was delighted by the great audience which packed the Metropolitan Opera House last night when "Faust" was sung. To be sure Gounod's masterpiece is one of the most beautiful works of the lyric stage, but in recent years it has not often attracted a large audience unless presented with an extraordinary cast. That offered last evening could not be so described. It had some competent interpreters of Gounod's personages, but none who lent special distinction to them.

The great personal beauty of Miss Farrar as *Marguerite* and the truly elegant vocal style of Leon Botstein as *Medieval* were the most striking features of the performance. Mr. Jörn, who had sung *Lohengrin* the previous evening, was not in the best of condition to deliver the sustained phrases of *Faust*, while Mr. Botstein, whose voice was in a worse state, had to depend upon his superb skill as an actor to give interest to his impersonation of *Valentin*.

MR. BACHAUS PLAYS.

The Pianist Heard in an Interesting Farewell Recital at Carnegie Hall.

Some one played Beethoven's variations in C minor a day or two ago, so it was inevitable that some one else would play them within a week. And so yesterday they began the programme of Wilhelm Bachaus's last recital, which took place in the afternoon at Carnegie Hall. Other numbers worthy of note were Beethoven's E flat sonata, opus 81; Rachmaninov's C sharp minor prelude; Chopin's C sharp minor prelude and B flat minor scherzo; three characteristic sketches by Debussy and a Hungarian rhapsody by Liszt.

Mr. Bachaus has been a most welcome addition to the list of New York's musical acquaintances. He came without any undue blowing of trumpets and elected to introduce himself as an interpretative musician rather than a virtuoso. He was very wise in doing this, because in his first performance of Beethoven's E flat concerto he disclosed sterling qualities and at once claimed the respect of all serious music lovers.

His subsequent performances have all been characterized by the same ease and sound art. He plays with exquisite clarity and finish, with artistic repose and incisiveness to give the charm of sequence and at once claimed the respect of all serious music lovers. He plays with exquisite clarity and finish, with artistic repose and incisiveness to give the charm of sequence and at once claimed the respect of all serious music lovers.

THE SYMPHONY CONCERT.

Beethoven's "Eroica" and "Die Meister-singer" Excerpts Heard.

The concert of the New York Symphony Society at the New Theatre yesterday afternoon was not one in which startling features were introduced, and yet it was one which was well arranged to command the interest of real music lovers. The programme consisted of Beethoven's "Eroica" symphony and the five excerpts from "Die Meistersinger" given last Sunday in the same place. These were the last of the series of excerpts from the symphony to the opera, the wonderful prelude to the third act and the prize song of the first act.

For years past there has been a general feeling of dissatisfaction with the performance of the "Eroica," excellent as it is, and it was felt that a more complete illustration of the work by the orchestra would be of great value. The orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Tuller, gave a performance of the "Eroica" which was a masterpiece of orchestration.

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Mr. Roosevelt: "Are the American people fit to govern themselves, to rule themselves, to control themselves? I believe they are."

The Average Citizen: "Then why in thunder don't you give them a chance, instead of trying it all by yourself?"

SPRING AWAKES AT IRVING PLACE THEATRE

Frank Wedekind's Study of Adolescent Emotions Acted Here for the First Time.

"FRUEHLINGS ERWACHEN"

But the Version Seen Was Carefully Blue Pencilled for a New York Audience.

"The Awakening of Spring"—At the Irving Place Theatre.

Melchior Gabor, Poldi Marauer, Moritz Siegel, George Haupt, Wendel Bergmann, Paul Casanovi, Frau Gabor, Georgine von Neudorf, Frau Wendel.

Although the arrival of spring has been delayed in some quarters, Gustav Amberg sent up the temperature of the Irving Place Theatre last night by producing there for the first time Frank Wedekind's famous "tragedy of childhood" called "The Awakening of Spring." This is not the graceful idyl of the year's youth that its title might suggest, but a series of episodes exhibiting the fearful consequences of not telling children all that it is supposed in Germany they ought to know.

It is a serious product this play and its frankness is covered by the customary cloak of education. The production of the work in its original form is beyond the resources of the theatre as Frank Wedekind's play. There was little or no fault to be found with the acting. The work was an evidence of good faith, had Dr. Maximilian Grossman, who is at the head of an institution for children in this city, deliver a lecture before the performance began. It was an interesting apology for the Wedekind drama and it was cheering to hear him say that its good beneficial effects were much more than balanced by any danger which it might contain. The work is evidently losing the confidence of the young to a degree still unknown in Germany.

One may be pardoned, however, for suspecting that the neurotic youngsters revealed last night would have been rather the same in any country. The Wedekind play is a study of the mind and its independence of conduct suggests that they were rather bent on their own investigations. It is scarcely fair to blame all the disaster that overtook them last night on that old family story about the stork.

Plays and Players.

Emily Stevens has been engaged by William A. Brady for the leading female role in "The New Law," the new drama by Bayard Veiller, which is to be produced at the Princess Theatre, Chicago, on April 1. Others for the cast are Caroline Kenyon, Edna Bennett, Isabel Goodwin, Blanche Craig, Andrew Robson, William B. Mack, Howard Estabrook, Kenneth Hill, John Willard, Howard Hall and Wilton Taylor.

"The Letter," a dramatic one act play showing prison life, will have its initial presentation at Hammerstein's Victoria Theatre on Monday, April 1. The play is by Aaron Hoffman and is his first effort at dramatic writing. Heretofore his time has been devoted to comedies and musical farce, including many of the Rogers brothers' musical plays.

A tea will be given at the City History Club, 23 West Forty-fourth street, next Wednesday afternoon, from 4 until 6 o'clock. Mrs. Frederick T. Van Buren, Mrs. Frederick Trevor Hill, Mrs. William Hill Taylor, Mrs. Alonzo Barton Hepburn and Mrs. Malcolm Stuart will be the guests of Mrs. Van Buren.

John Wanamaker will sail to-day on the Olympic for a two months' vacation in Europe. He goes about this time every year. He will visit Paris and make a stop at Carlsbad. Mr. Wanamaker expects to be back from the Republican national convention and go to it as a delegate to Taft from his district in Philadelphia.

COUNTRY CLUB SPORT.

Coasting and Skiing at Knollwood—Shooting and Golf at Other Places.

Ardley Club—Trap shooting, golf and squash will attract members this week-end. The golf course is not in very good shape, but some enthusiasts will play. The spring dance at the club will be held on April 12.

Apawamis Club—The golf course is covered with snow, but a few golfers will play to-day and to-morrow. There will be some squab.

Baltusport Golf Club—Golf, trap shooting and the beginning of the squash handicap tournament will be attractions to-day.

Sidney H. Browne and L. P. Bayard, Jr., are to play squash. The first string of fifty targets for a trophy will also be shot.

Essex County Golf Club—Golf, trap shooting and squash are features to-day and to-morrow. There will be dancing in the clubhouse this evening and music to-morrow afternoon.

New York Athletic Club—The Yale Gun Club team will shoot against the New York A. C. team this afternoon. Other events are on the programme.

Knollwood Country Club—The last fall of snow has made coasting and skiing possible, and unless there is a thaw these winter sports will be patronized to-day and to-morrow. The members will also shoot and play squash.

Morris County Golf Club—There will be some golf to-day if the weather permits. The course is covered with snow.

Crescent Athletic Club—The trap shooters will compete as usual this afternoon at Bay Ridge.

Richmond Country Club—Golfing and horseback riding will be the features this week-end. There will be several dinner parties in the house this evening and bridge later.

Rumson Country Club—Trap shooting and golf are the attractions to-day. There will be music in the clubhouse this evening. Golfers will have some sport to-morrow.

Marble and Field Club—The usual trap shooting fixtures will attract members this afternoon.

Dyker Meadow Golf Club—Some golf will be played to-day and to-morrow if the snow melts.

Miss Quennell's Marriage on April 24.

Miss Beatrice Arundel Octavia Quennell, daughter of the late Rev. Robert G. Quennell, will be married to Albert H. Gallatin, a son of Mrs. James H. Gallatin, in the Church of the Ascension on Wednesday afternoon, April 24. The bride will be given away by her brother, Robert Quennell, and she will have as her only attendant, her sister, Miss Grace Alcock. Other details have not yet been decided.

Notes of the Social World.

Mrs. E. Francis Hyde gave a farewell luncheon yesterday at her home, 24 Madison street, for Max Fiedler, conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood Aldrich left to spend the summer in Red Spring, L. I., where they have leased the country place of Mrs. Arthur Gibb.

Mrs. Alexander Mackay Smith of Philadelphia is at the Plaza for a short stay.

Mrs. Heth Lorton will give a dinner date at her home in Garden City on April 10.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Fletcher, who are now in the West Indies, will return early next month and go to their country place, The Willows, in Glen Cove, L. I.

Washington Society Notes.

Miss Helen Taft returned to the White House this afternoon from a short visit in New York with her mother and brother (Charles). Mrs. Taft, accompanied by her father, Dr. Cornelius Rubner of Columbia University, and Mrs. Ida, soprano. They were all guests of Mrs. Hunt Slater, who entertained a smart company at luncheon for them to-day.

John Wanamaker Sails Today.

John Wanamaker will sail to-day on the Olympic for a two months' vacation in Europe. He goes about this time every year. He will visit Paris and make a stop at Carlsbad. Mr. Wanamaker expects to be back from the Republican national convention and go to it as a delegate to Taft from his district in Philadelphia.

PAPERED BATHROOM WITH GREEN BONDS

Levi C. Weir Proved No One Need Feel Blue Simply Because Eldorado Was a Dream.

IT'S A FINE COLOR SCHEME

Charming Borders of White Coupons Encircle Cincinnati, Wheeling and New York \$1,000 Paper.

If perchance the Cincinnati, Wheeling and New York Railroad can be revived it will pay you to take a job as decorator in the house of the late Levi C. Weir at 12 East Fifty-second street, go to work on the walls and ceiling of the lavatory on the first floor and claim salvage, for there are about 350 square feet of \$200 bonds of that company pasted up like wall paper, and bonds and stocks of other defunct corporations which appear here and there as a border. The color scheme is green and white.

Mr. Weir resigned the